

CALFED Conjunctive Use Grant Program
Pre-Submittal Workshop
March 7, 2000
Public Questions and Staff Responses

Bay-Delta Program staff held a Pre-Submittal Workshop on February 7, 2000 to answer questions regarding CALFED's Conjunctive Use Grant Program. Public questions and staff responses are summarized below:

- **Is there a limit on the number of applications that can be submitted by one agency?**
No, there is not a limit.
- **Do agencies need to have final environmental documentation prior to funding or submittal?**
The applicants do not have to have final environmental documentation prior to submittal, applicants need to specify what permits and environmental documentation will be required and provide a timeline for completing them. Funds will not be released until final certification of environmental documentation has been completed and confirmed.
- **Since the deadline is March 24, 2000, how complete does the application need to be?**
Applicants should have a complete application. The selection panel will base their recommendations on the application packet received on March 24th. The panel may require further clarification or approve an application with contingencies.
- **Is it necessary to have the Board resolution with the application?**
If it is not possible to attain a Board resolution by March 24th, the applicant should explain the situation and state when they expect to attain the resolution.
- **Do you have a particular format for the resolution?**
No specific resolution format is required.
- **If the applicant has already completed environmental documentation for the project, do they need to provide the documents or backup information?**
No, supporting documentation is not necessary for the application, but will be necessary before funding is distributed.
- **How is scoring done?**
Refer to the application packet, page 10, showing categories of criteria.
- **You may have several projects with the same score. How will the panel determine which project is accepted?**
Discretionary points may be awarded to applications for extraordinary performance in any criteria described in the scoring sheet on page 10 of the application packet or to provide for a diverse geographic distribution of grants.
- **If a project is outside of the San Joaquin Valley, but within the State service area, will it qualify for funding?**
Yes, if the project is in the State Water Project service area it will be considered.
- **Will sampling and lab analysis qualify for funding if water quality sampling is necessary for potential water transfers?**
Preference will be given to projects ready to be implemented. The applicant could describe the project in its entirety and depict the water quality sampling and lab analysis as one component of the project.

- **Are funds reimbursable? Will they be distributed up front?**
Funds will not be distributed up front. Successful applicants will be reimbursed for expenses incurred, under terms to be worked out by the parties.
- **Will projects providing reliability to southern California, or areas with higher needs, receive preference?**
It is possible that projects that provide benefits to areas of higher need will receive preference.
- **Do you have any ideas or goals as to how a project far away from the Delta would provide the CALFED Bay-Delta Program objective of providing Delta protection and enhancement?**
Page 10 of the application packet describes scoring criteria related to CALFED Bay-Delta Program ecosystem restoration objectives. If a project is far away from the Delta it may be more difficult to show ecosystem benefits. However, a project that improves local water supply reliability and could reduce the need for pumping from the Delta during times of sensitivity for fisheries could provide benefits towards CALFED's ecosystem restoration goals.
- **Will the administration of grants require voluminous documentation? Has Calfed begun drafting agreements?**
Administration details have not yet been developed. The request to avoid voluminous documentation will be noted.
- **Will funding of conjunctive use projects be an ongoing program? If a project is not accepted can it be resubmitted?**
The future of ongoing funding depends on future appropriations. A successful program will most likely increase the likelihood of future funding. If a project is not accepted, it can be resubmitted in the future.
- **Do funds need to be expended by September 30th, the end of the fiscal year? No.**
- **Will the applicant work with one person as a contact after submittal?**
Yes. Mark Cowin, Anthony Sacracino, or Gordon Burns will most likely be the contact. It is anticipated that contact will be minimal (e.g. questions on the schedule) until the panel makes its recommendations.
- **How will you equitably distribute the \$500,000 project cap? Is partial funding possible?**
The intent is to provide funding with geographic diversity, which may affect the selection or the amount funded for each project. Yes, partial funding is an option.
- **Can you clarify "added Delta supply, reduced Delta demand"?**
This refers to the opportunity to increase flows to fish during certain times or to decrease diversions from the Delta (to benefit fisheries) at a specified period of time.
- **Suppose an agency submits eight projects, will you evaluate the applications immediately or wait until all applications are complete?**
The panel will base their recommendations on the March 24th submittals. Applications that are not considered complete will be rejected.